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OAQDA Approves More Than \$2 Million for Energy-Efficiency and Clean Air Projects

Projects in Cuyahoga and Montgomery counties reduce energy consumption, limit hazardous emissions and create jobs

COLUMBUS – At its May 10 meeting, the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) approved up to \$2,058,588 in bond financing to support environmentally-friendly development projects through its signature [Clean Air Improvement Program](#) (CAIP) and [Clean Air Resource Center](#) (CARC).

OAQDA approved [Dayton Realtors](#) for up to \$2 million in bond financing to make upgrades to an office building located at 1515 S. Main Street in Dayton, in **Montgomery County**. The financing allows Dayton Realtors to make energy-efficient improvements to the commercial office building, built in 1980, by installing a cool roof that is solar ready, as well as a highly efficient variable refrigerant flow system, LED lighting upgrades, and other related repairs. The improvements are expected to create a total energy savings of 57% of the current energy usage – roughly 167,034 kWh annually. In addition to the energy efficient upgrades, the project supports the growth of the business, including the preservation of 13 full-time jobs and 15 full-time equivalent positions during construction. Dayton Realtors has been operating in Ohio for 113 years and is focused on reducing its carbon footprint by reducing energy consumption and providing essential resources to advance the roles of Dayton real estate professionals.

OAQDA also approved up to \$58,588 in bond financing and \$11,718 in grant money for **Yong-A Cleaners, LLC** in **Cuyahoga County** to make clean air equipment upgrades through the CARC small business program. The retail dry cleaner, shirt and laundry service, located at 2084 South Taylor Road in Cleveland Heights, has been in business for seven years. With the financing, the dry cleaner will be able to remove an outdated perchloroethylene dry cleaning machine and replace it with a cleaner multi-solvent machine (hydro-carbon cleaning), resulting in the total elimination of PERC pollutants. Investing in new equipment allows Yong-A Cleaners to comply with Ohio EPA regulations, eliminate harmful chemicals for improved public health, use less energy, and create a healthier working environment for employees.

“OAQDA is pleased to support projects as they bring innovation and efficiency to aging buildings and eliminate equipment linked to harming public health,” said Christina O’Keeffe, Executive Director,

OAQDA. “By approving the financing for these projects, we are helping businesses make the necessary clean air improvements to enhance operations, create jobs and build healthier communities.”

Through CARC, OAQDA offers financing packages that are structured to suit the needs of individual projects, which are incentivized with tax benefits using its OAQDA bonds and grants to help small businesses cover a portion of project costs. OAQDA’s CAIP program provides financial tools through bond financing, allowing companies to make investments in cleaner, more efficient technologies such as pollution control, energy efficiency and renewable energy. OAQDA is committed to serving the economic and environmental needs of Ohio businesses and communities as they strive to reduce air emissions while supporting the state’s economic growth.

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The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) is a non-regulatory government agency working to position Ohio as a leader in harmonizing a strong economy and a healthy environment. Since its creation in 1970, OAQDA has worked to improve air quality by supporting businesses, creating jobs and improving communities while enhancing the health and safety of all Ohioans. To date, OAQDA has awarded more than \$8 billion to finance air quality projects. For more information about OAQDA and its services, please visit ohioairquality.org.